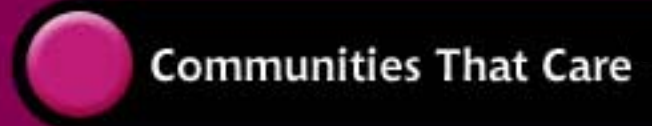


A photograph of three people, two men and one woman, looking down at a document or book. The woman on the left is pointing at something on the page. The man in the middle is wearing glasses and looking intently. The man on the right is also looking at the document. The image has a purple and blue color overlay.

# **Overview:**

## **The Research Foundation and Process**

## Phase Two: Organizing, Introducing, Involving



### Module 1

Setting the Stage

### Module 2

Overview: The Research Foundation and Process

WE ARE  
HERE.

### Module 3

Milestone: Address Readiness Issues

### Module 4

Milestone: Engage Key Leaders

### Module 5

Milestone: Educate and Involve the Community

### Module 6

Milestone: Create an Effective Community Board

### Module 7

Next Steps

# Module 2 goal



Provide an overview of the  
*Communities That Care*  
research foundation  
and process.



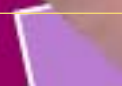


# Objectives



On completing this module, you will be able to:

1. describe what the *Communities That Care* system is and how it helps communities
2. describe the research foundation of the *Communities That Care* system
3. explain how the prevention-science research base helps build positive futures for youth and prevent problem behaviors
4. explain how the *Communities That Care* operating system works
5. describe the benefits of using the *Communities That Care* operating system.





# The *Communities That Care* system...

uses prevention-science research to promote positive youth development and prevent youth behavior problems

provides local control and flexibility to maintain support and sustainability

matches a local profile of risk, protection and problem behaviors to tested, effective programs, policies and practices

focuses on outcomes to ensure accountability for resources.

# The research foundation



- The Social Development Strategy
- The public health approach
- Research-based predictors of problem behaviors and positive youth outcomes—risk and protective factors
- Tested, effective prevention strategies



# **Building positive futures:**

**“Begin with  
the end  
in mind.”**

**—Stephen Covey**



Communities That Care







**“Begin with  
the end  
in mind.”**

**—Stephen Covey**





# The Social Development Strategy

A research-based model that organizes known protective factors into a guiding framework for building positive futures for children



Communities That Care



The goal...  
**Healthy behaviors**  
for all children and youth



Communities That Care

Start with...  
**Healthy beliefs & clear standards**  
...in families, schools, communities and peer groups

Build...  
**Bonding**  
• **Attachment** • **Commitment**  
...to families, schools, communities and peer groups

By providing...  
**Opportunities**

By providing...  
**Skills**

By providing...  
**Recognition**

...in families, schools, communities and peer groups

And by nurturing...  
**Individual characteristics**

**Building  
protection:**

**The Social  
Development  
Strategy**

# Prevention-science research base



Communities That Care

- The Social Development Strategy
- The public health approach





# The public health approach



Communities That Care

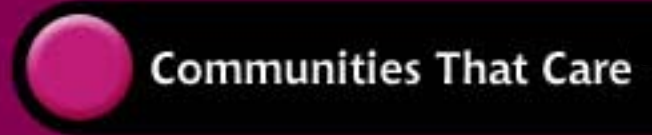


# The public health approach



- Based on research on predictors of health problems
- Modifies predictors to prevent behavior problems
- Can affect the entire social environment
- Works through collaboration
- Can create long-lasting results

# Prevention-science research base



- The Social Development Strategy
- The public health approach
- Research-based predictors of problem behaviors and positive youth outcomes—risk and protective factors





# Predictors of problem behaviors and positive youth outcomes

## Risk factors

Research has identified *risk factors* in four domains:

Risk factors are predictive of higher levels of adolescent substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school drop-out and violence.



# Risk factors



- Research-based
- Predictive in multiple longitudinal studies
- Present in all areas of influence
- Predictive of multiple problem behaviors
- Present throughout development
- Work similarly across racial lines
- Measurable
- Buffered by protective factors

# Community risk factors



Communities That Care

## Adolescent problem behaviors

Substance Abuse

Delinquency

Teen Pregnancy

School Drop-Out

Violence

Availability of Drugs	✓				✓
Availability of Firearms		✓			✓
Community Laws and Norms Favorable toward Drug Use, Firearms and Crime	✓	✓			✓
Media Portrayals of Violence					✓
Transitions and Mobility	✓	✓		✓	
Low Neighborhood Attachment and Community Disorganization	✓	✓			✓
Extreme Economic Deprivation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# Family risk factors



## Adolescent problem behaviors

Substance Abuse

Delinquency

Teen Pregnancy

School Drop-Out

Violence

Family History of the Problem Behavior	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family Management Problems	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family Conflict	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Favorable Parental Attitudes and Involvement in the Problem Behavior	✓	✓			✓

# School risk factors



## Adolescent problem behaviors

Substance Abuse

Delinquency

Teen Pregnancy

School Drop-Out

Violence

Academic Failure Beginning in Late Elementary School



Lack of Commitment to School



# Peer and individual risk factors



Communities That Care

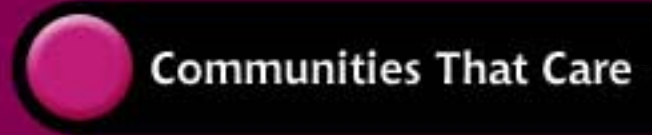
## Adolescent problem behaviors

Substance Abuse  
Delinquency  
Teen Pregnancy  
School Drop-Out  
Violence

Early and persistent antisocial behavior	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rebelliousness	✓	✓		✓	
Friends who engage in the problem behavior	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gang involvement	✓	✓			✓
Favorable attitudes toward the problem behavior	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Early initiation of the problem behavior	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Constitutional factors	✓	✓			✓



# Predictors of problem behaviors and positive youth outcomes



## Protective factors

Research has identified *protective factors* in four domains:

Protective factors buffer young people's exposure to risk.

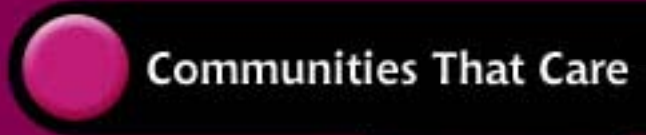


# Protective factors



- Research-based
- Present in all areas of influence
- Measurable
- Predictive of positive youth development
- Present throughout development
- Buffer effects of risk exposure

# Protective factors



- Individual factors
  - High intelligence
  - Resilient temperament
  - Prosocial orientation
  - Competencies and skills
- Prosocial opportunities
- Reinforcement for prosocial involvement
- Bonding
- Healthy beliefs and clear standards



The goal...  
**Healthy behaviors**  
for all children and youth



**Communities That Care**

Start with...  
**Healthy beliefs & clear standards**  
...in families, schools, communities and peer groups

Build...  
**Bonding**  
• **Attachment** • **Commitment**  
...to families, schools, communities and peer groups

By providing...  
**Opportunities**

...to families, schools, communities and peer groups

By providing...  
**Skills**

By providing...  
**Recognition**

And by nurturing...  
**Individual characteristics**

**Building  
protection:**

**The Social  
Development  
Strategy**



# Frameworks for community action



## The Search Institute's framework:

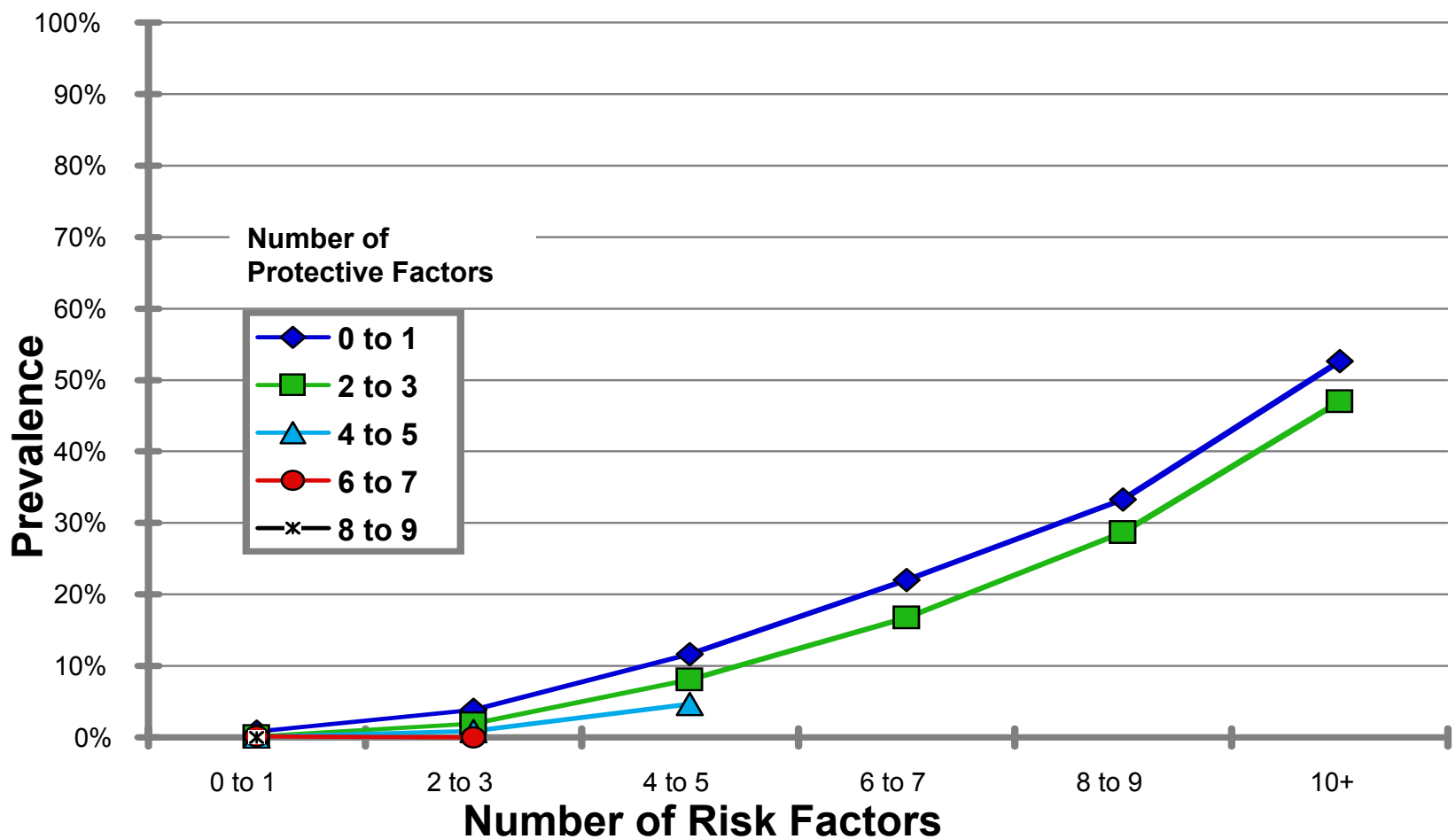
- assesses external and internal assets
- promotes positive youth development by enhancing assets.

## The *Communities That Care* framework:

- uses the Social Development Strategy
- assesses risk *and* protective factors
- matches risk and protection profiles with tested, effective programs
- promotes positive youth development by reducing risk *and* enhancing protection.



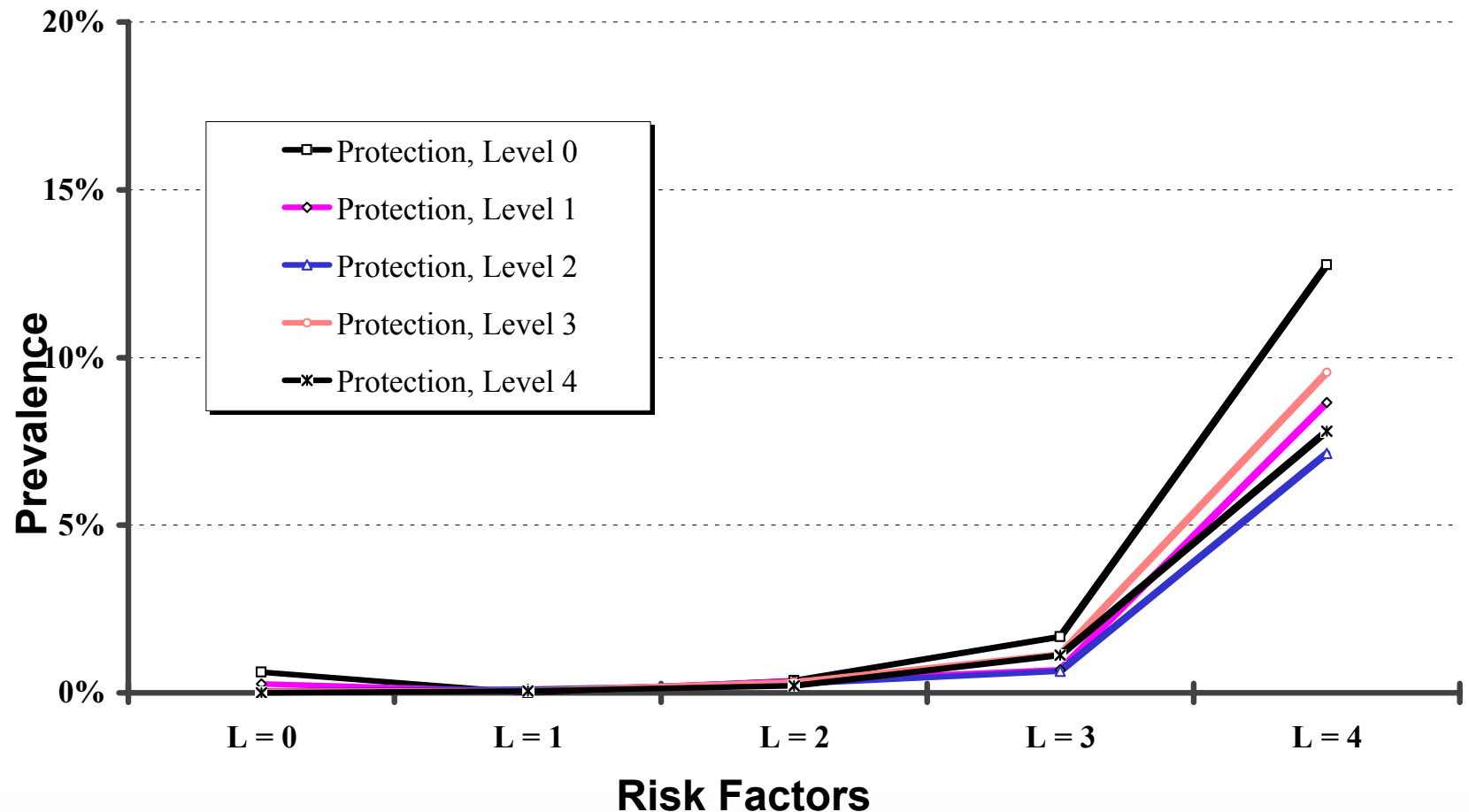
# Association of risk- and protective-factor levels with marijuana use (past 30 days)



# Association of risk- and protective-factor levels with taking a gun to school (past year)



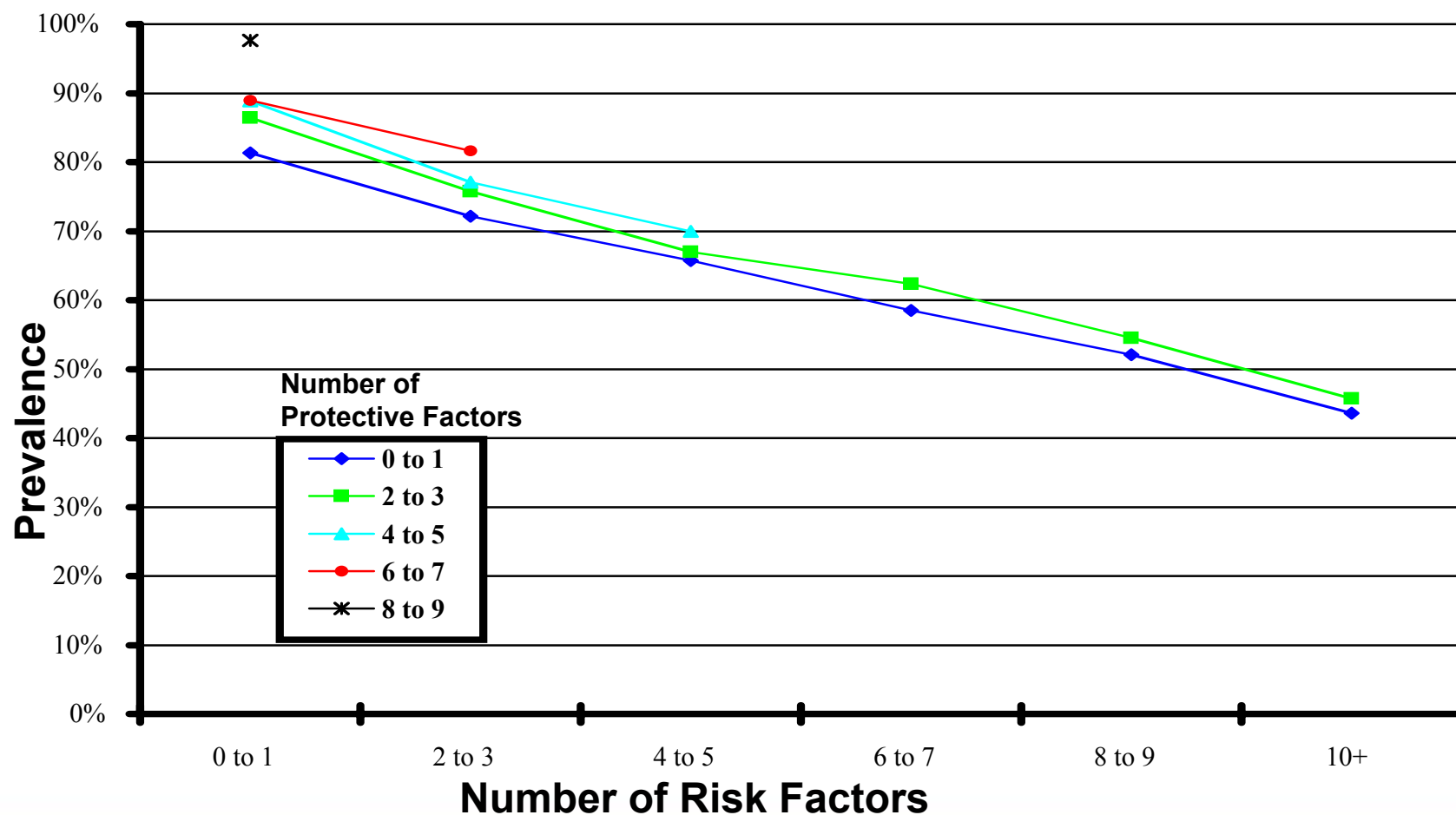
Communities That Care



# Association of risk- and protective-factor levels with academic success (past year)



Communities That Care





# What research has shown about risk and protective factors



- Risk and protective factors exist in all areas of children's lives.
- The more risk factors present, the greater the chances of problem behavior.
- Risk and protective factors can be present throughout development.
- Risk factors are buffered by protective factors.

# What research has shown about risk and protective factors



- Common risk and protective factors predict diverse behavior problems.
- Risk and protective factors work similarly across racial lines.
- Both risk and protective factors should be used in prevention efforts.

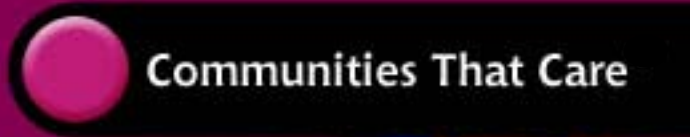
# Prevention-science research base



- The Social Development Strategy
- The public health approach
- Research-based predictors of problem behaviors and positive youth outcomes—risk and protective factors
- Tested, effective prevention strategies



# Tested, effective prevention strategies



*Programs, policies or practices* that have demonstrated effectiveness in:

- Reducing specific risk factors and enhancing protective factors
- Enhancing positive behaviors and reducing negative behaviors





# Effective prevention strategies



- Project STAR
- Adolescent Alcohol Prevention Trial
- Preparing for the Drug-Free Years  
(Now called Families That Care: Guiding Good Choices)
- Adolescents Training and Learning to Avoid Steroids:  
The ATLAS Program
- Project Family
- Strengthening Families Program
- Focus on Families
- Reconnecting Youth
- Adolescent Transitions Program  
(National Institute on Drug Abuse, 1997)



# Communities That Care

## **Prevention Strategies:**

### **A Research Guide to What Works**

# What works?

1. Assessing community levels of risk and protection
2. Prioritizing elevated risks and depressed protective factors
3. Including individuals and groups exposed to the highest levels of risk and the lowest levels of protection



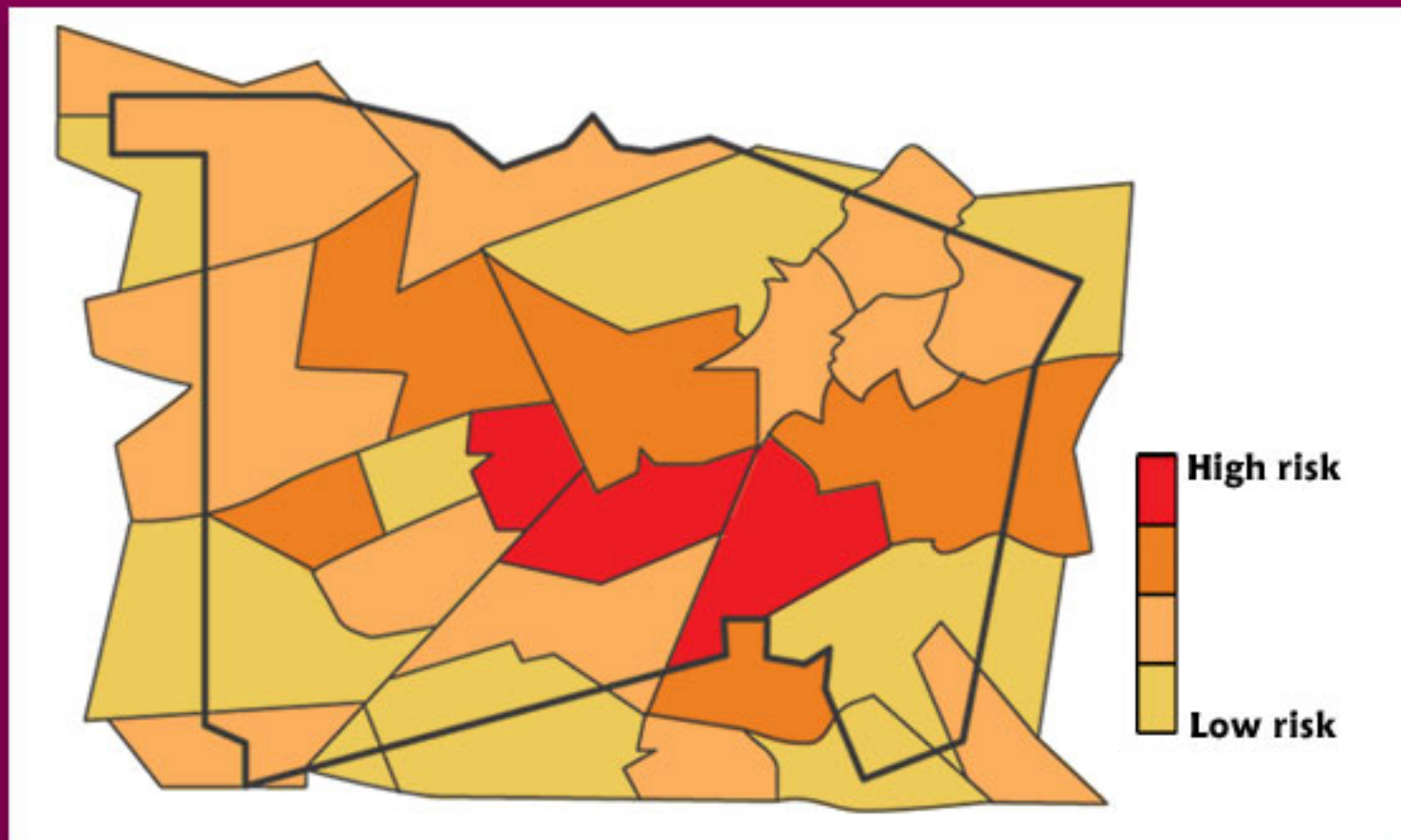
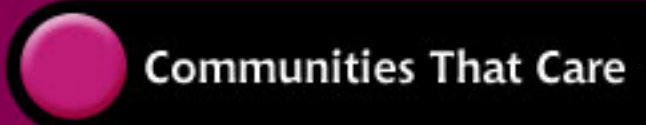
# What works?

4. Matching tested, effective programs to the community's risk and protection profile
5. Selecting tested, effective programs that address the racial, economic and cultural characteristics of the community
6. Implementing programs, policies and practices with fidelity at the appropriate ages





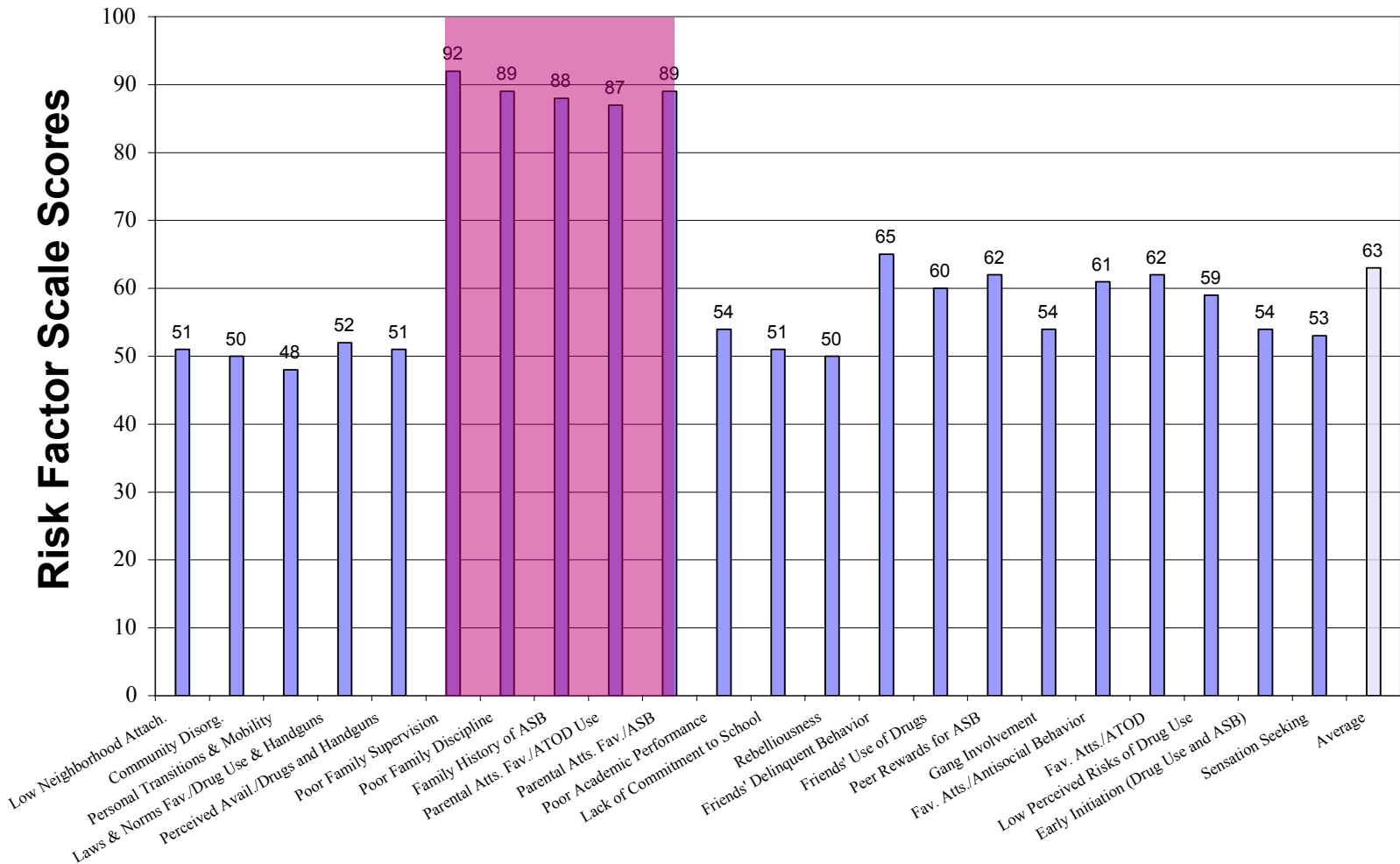
# Different communities, different strategies



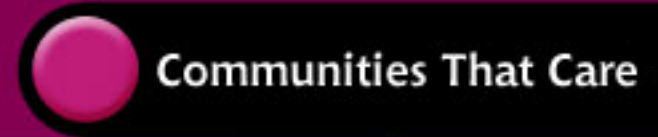
# Risk profile: Neighborhood #1



Communities That Care



# Family domain



Risk factor addressed	Program strategy	Healthy beliefs/ clear standards	Protective factors				Developmental period
			Bonding	Opportunities	Skills	Recognition	
Family history of the problem behavior	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
Family management problems	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Early childhood education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3-5
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Family therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-14
Family conflict	Marital therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal
	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Family therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-14
Favorable parental attitudes and involvement in the problem behavior	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Community/school policies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	All

# Tested, effective prevention strategies:

## Prenatal and infancy programs



Communities That Care

- **Nurse-Family Partnership**  
(Olds et al., 1986; Olds & Kitzman, 1993; Olds et al., 1998)
- **Syracuse Family Development Research Program**  
(Lally, Mangione & Honig, 1988)
- **Infant Health and Development Program**  
(Ramey, 1990; Ramey et al., 1992; Liaw et al., 1995)
- **Keys to Caregiving videotape series**  
(Barnard et al., 1988)





# Family domain



Risk factor addressed	Program strategy	Healthy beliefs/ clear standards	Protective factors				Developmental period
			Bonding	Opportunities	Skills	Recognition	
Family history of the problem behavior	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
Family management problems	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Early childhood education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3-5
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Family therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-14
Family conflict	Marital therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal
	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Family therapy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-14
Favorable parental attitudes and involvement in the problem behavior	Prenatal/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-14
	Community/school policies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	All

# Tested, effective prevention strategies:

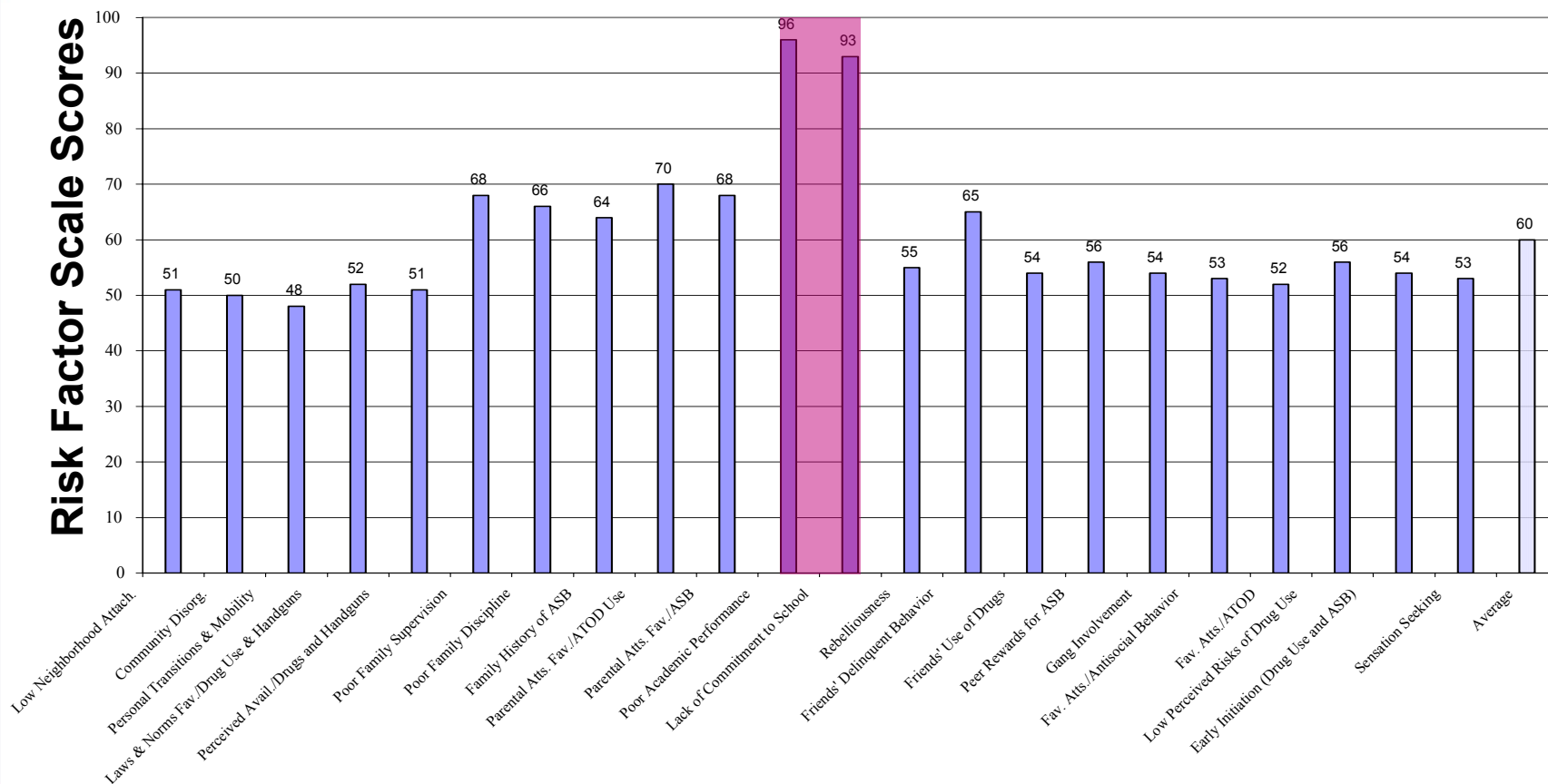


Communities That Care

## Parent training

- Families That Care: Guiding Good Choices  
(Catalano et al., 1998)
- Preparing for School Success  
(Hawkins et al., 1999)
- Iowa Strengthening Families Program  
(Spoth et al., 1998, 1999, 2001)

# Risk profile: Neighborhood #2



# School domain



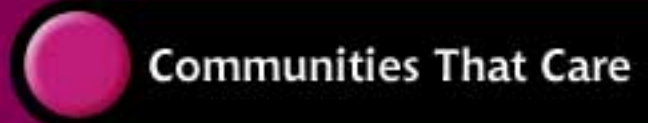
Communities That Care

Risk factor addressed	Program strategy	Healthy beliefs/ clear standards	Protective factors				Developmental period
			Bonding	Opportunities	Skills	Recognition	
Academic failure beginning in late elementary school	Parent/infancy programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-2
	Early childhood education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3-5
	Parent training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Prenatal-10
	Organizational change in schools	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-18
	Classroom organization, management and instructional strategies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-18
	Classroom curricula for social competence	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6-14
	School behavior management strategies	✓		✓		✓	6-14
	Youth employment with education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	15-21



# Tested, effective prevention strategies:

## Classroom curricula for social competence



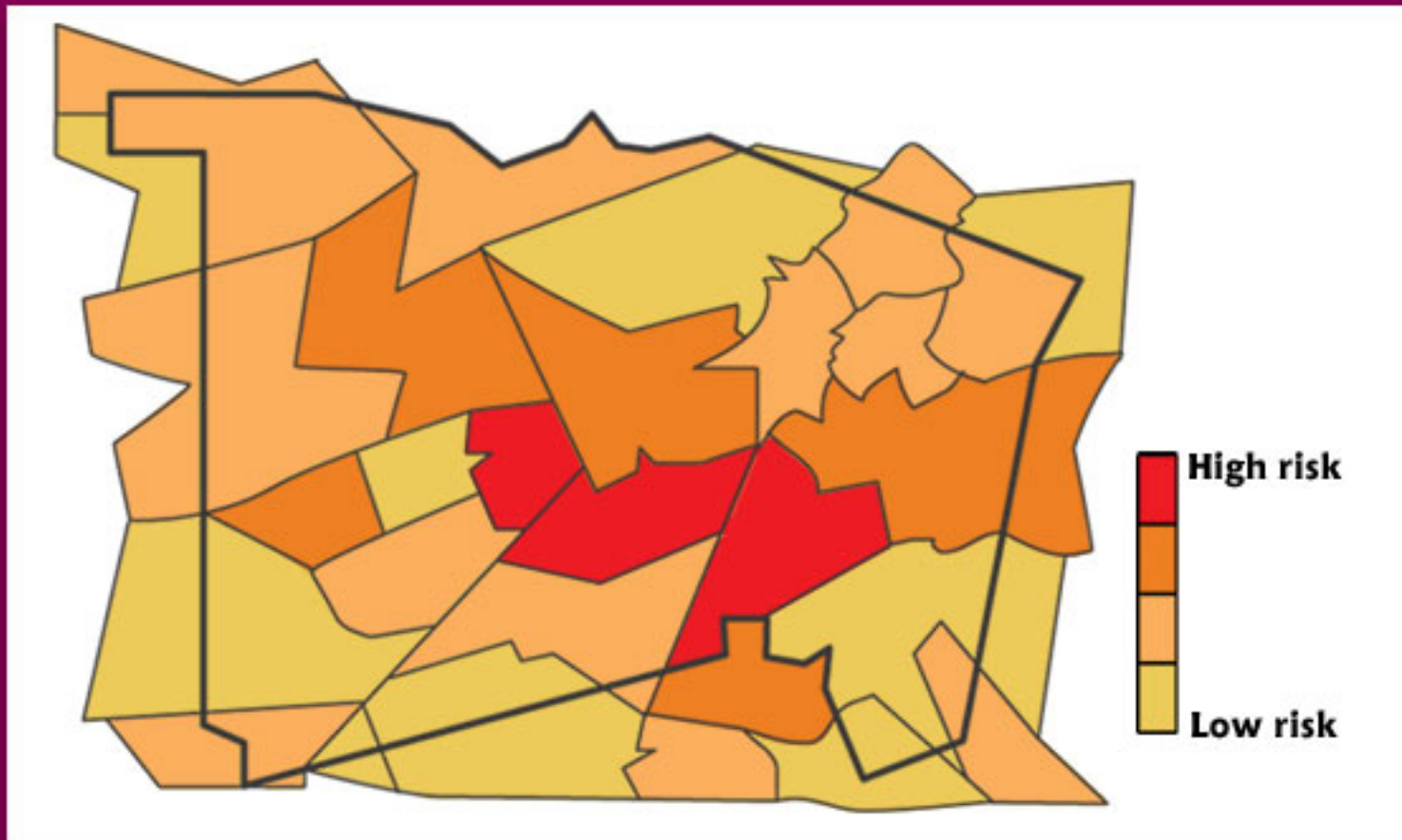
- Reconnecting Youth  
(Eggert et al., 1994)
- Children of Divorce  
Intervention Program  
(Pedro-Carroll & Cowen, 1985; Pedro-Carroll et al., 1986, 1992)



# Different communities, different strategies



Communities That Care



# What works?

1. Assessing community levels of risk and protection
2. Prioritizing elevated risks and depressed protective factors
3. Including individuals and groups exposed to the highest levels of risk and the lowest levels of protection



# What works?

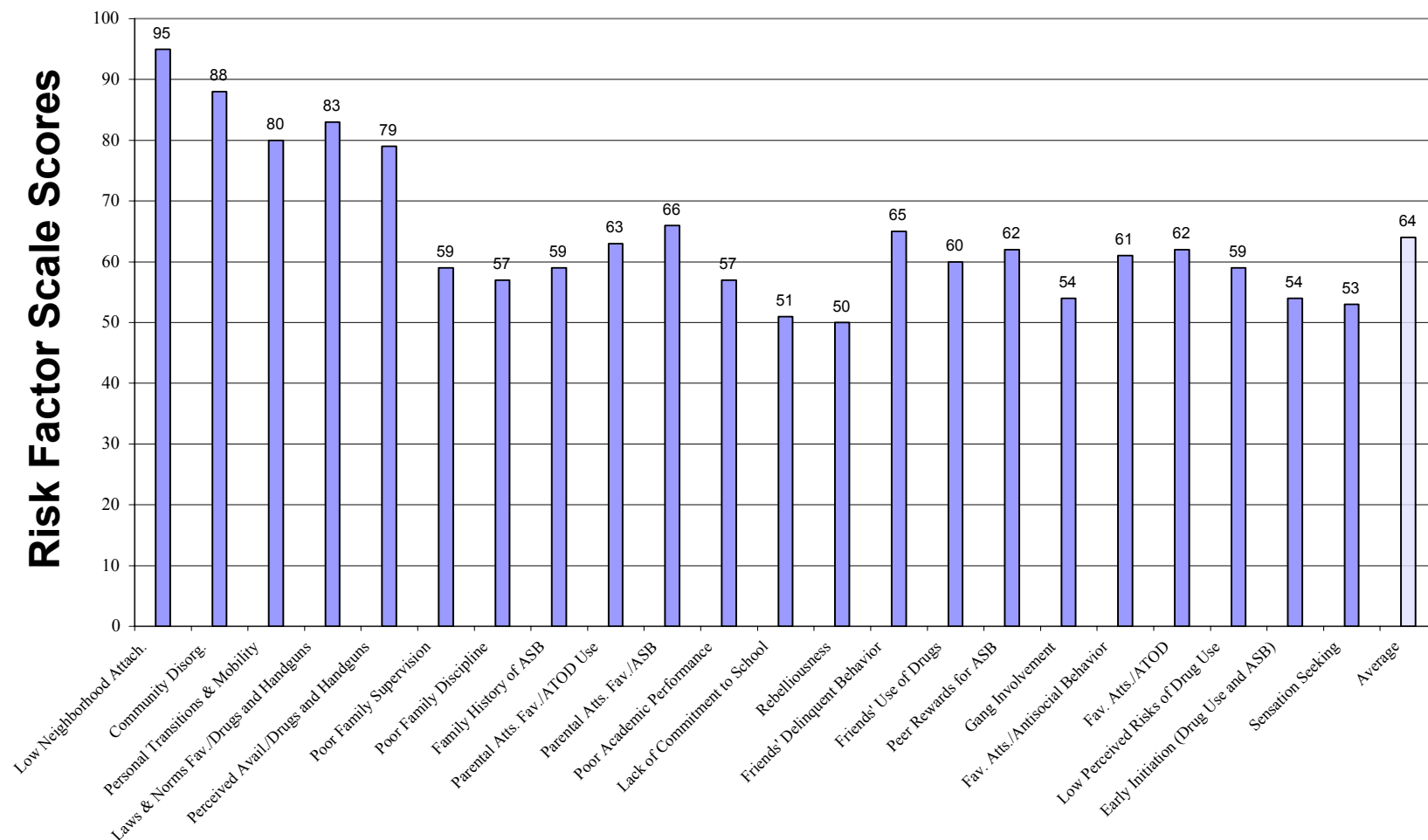
4. Matching tested, effective programs to the community's risk and protection profile
5. Selecting tested, effective programs that address the racial, economic and cultural characteristics of the community
6. Implementing programs, policies and practices with fidelity at the appropriate ages



# Risk profile: Neighborhood #3



Communities That Care



# Implementing the *Communities That Care* system



Communities That Care






## Phase One: Getting Started

Purpose: Begin the *Communities That Care* process. Identify:

- people
- scope
- readiness
- resources.

**Support:** Strategic Consultation; *Tools for Community Leaders: A Guidebook for Getting Started*



## Phase Two: Organizing, Introducing, Involving

Purpose: Prepare Key Leaders, the Community Board and community members for involvement by:

- developing an organizational structure
- creating a work plan
- securing resources to implement the *Communities That Care* system
- confirming milestones and benchmarks to create accountability.

**Support:** *Key Leader Orientation; Community Board Orientation; Technical Assistance as needed*





## Phase Three: Developing a Community Profile

Purpose: Identify gaps in current response to priorities.

- Assess risk factors, protective factors and problem behaviors (*Communities That Care Youth Survey*).
- Prioritize risk and protective factors, and populations or geographic areas.
- Complete resources assessment and gaps analysis.

**Support:** *Community Assessment Training; Community Resources Assessment Training; Technical Assistance as needed*



## Phase Four: Creating a Community Action Plan

Purpose: Create a plan for implementing and evaluating tested, effective programs, policies and practices.

- Measurable outcomes
- Selection of programs, policies and practices to fill gaps
- Implementation and evaluation plans

**Support: *Community Planning Training;*  
Technical Assistance as needed**



## Phase Five: Implementing and Evaluating the Community Action Plan

Purpose: Implement and evaluate the plan, and refine as needed.

- Implement selected programs, policies and practices.
- Evaluate the process and outcomes.
- Adjust the plan.

**Support:** *Community Plan Implementation Training;*  
**Technical Assistance as needed**

# Training events



Communities That Care

## Phase One

- **Strategic Consultation**

## Phase Two

- **Key Leader Orientation**
- **Community Board Orientation**

## Phase Three

- **Community Assessment Training**
- **Community Resources Assessment Training**

## Phase Four

- **Community Planning Training**

## Phase Five

- **Community Plan Implementation Training**





# **Community Action Plan:**

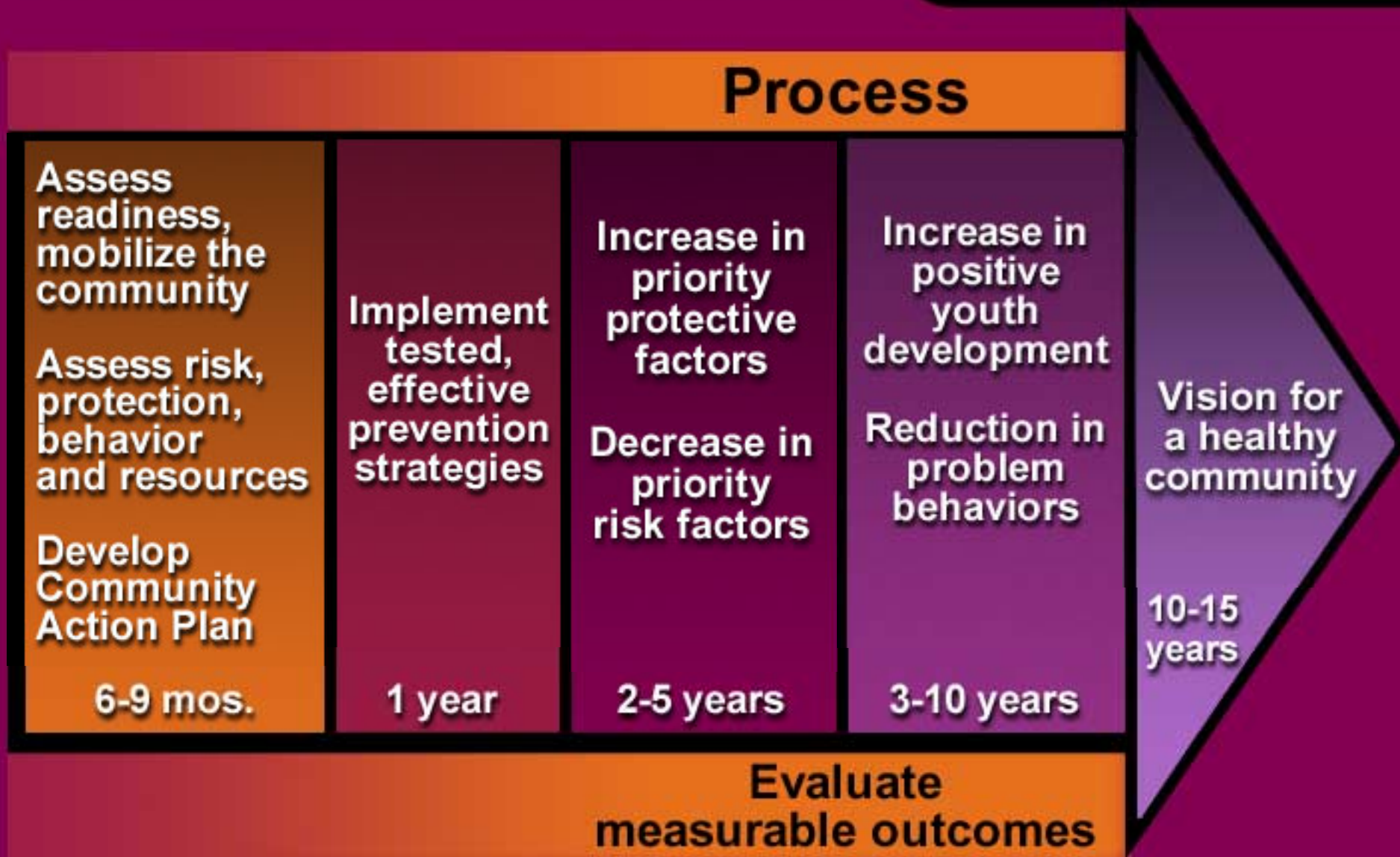
## **Key elements**

- Broad community involvement and ownership
- Data-driven assessment of risk, protection, behavior and resources
- Mutually agreed-upon focus and priorities
- Research-based programs, policies and practices, building on existing resources
- Outcome-based plan and evaluation strategy

# Process and time line



Communities That Care



# Benefits of the *Communities That Care* system



Communities That Care

- Shared vision and community norms
- Common language for prevention and youth development
- Coordinated data collection and analysis using a limited, manageable data set
- Integrated planning processes

Jenson et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1996;  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996, 1997

# Benefits of the Communities That Care system



Communities That Care

Increased:

- funding
- collaboration among agencies
- accountability
- use of tested, effective programs
- long-range, strategic focus
- community involvement.

Jenson et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1996;  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996, 1997



# Benefits of the Communities That Care system



Communities That Care

Decreased:

- “turf” conflict
- duplication or fragmentation of resources
- “problem du jour”
- use of untested or proven ineffective programs
- community disorganization.

Jenson et al., 1997; U.S. General Accounting Office, 1996;  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996, 1997

# Example results



Communities That Care

Ames, IA

Improved cognitive skills

East Prairie, MO

Improved parenting skills, family relations, community relations

Montgomery County, MD

72% decrease in suspensions;  
30% decrease in school problems

Nekoosa, WI

Decrease in student detentions, academic failure, truancy

Lansing, MI

Decrease in fights, suspension;  
Increased feelings of safety at school

Port Angeles, WA

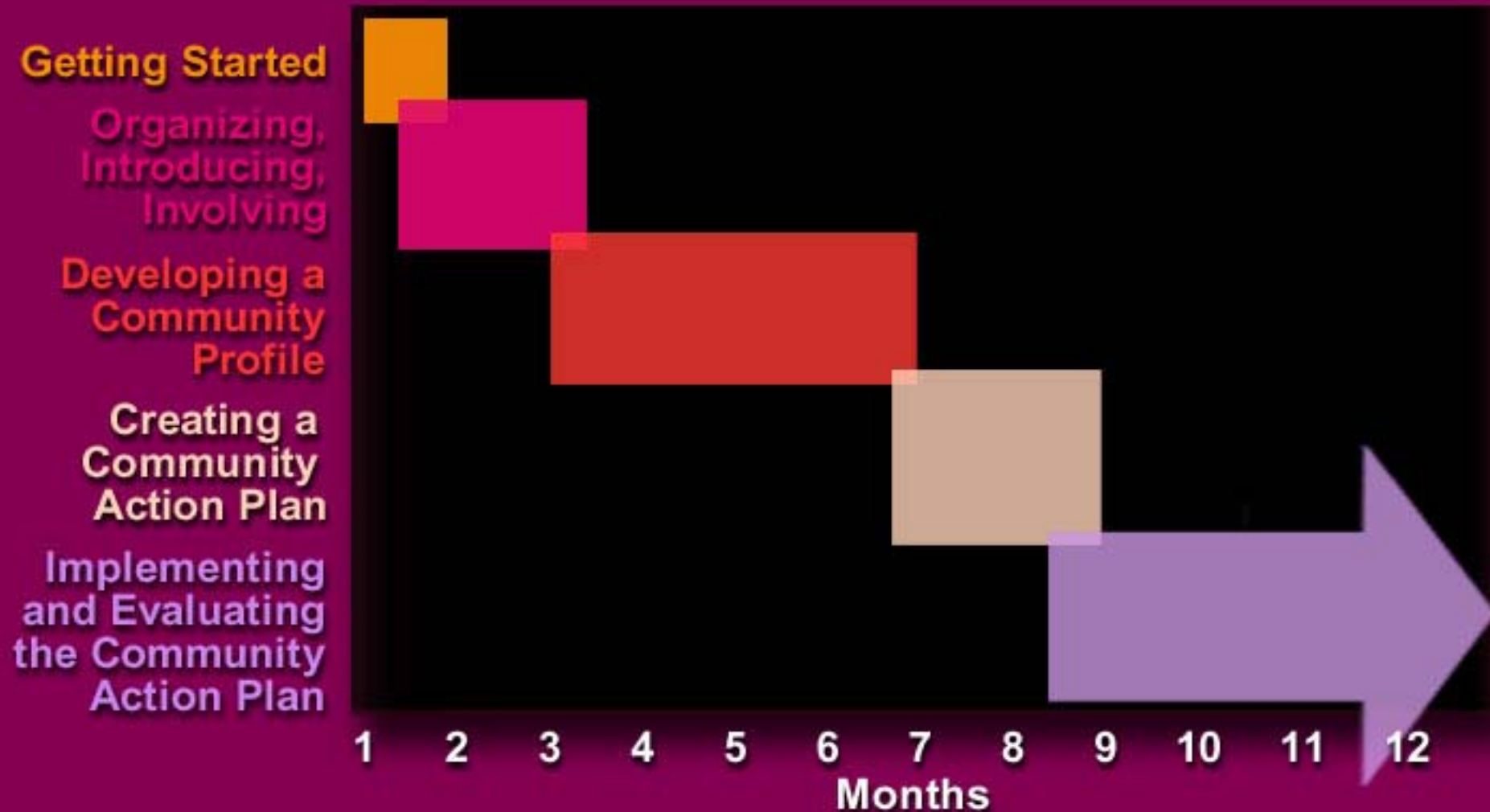
65% decrease in weapons charges;  
45% decrease in burglary; 29% decrease in drug offenses; 27% decrease in assault charges; 18% decrease in larceny

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996, 1997

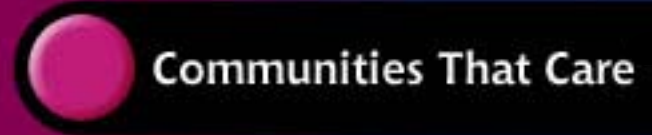
# First-year time line



Communities That Care



# Milestones and benchmarks

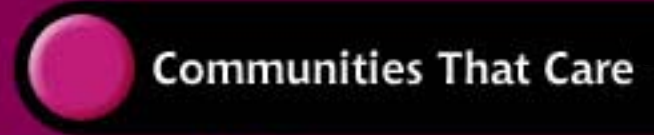


- Established for each phase
- Indicate critical steps and procedures
- Document and celebrate accomplishments
- Supported by training modules





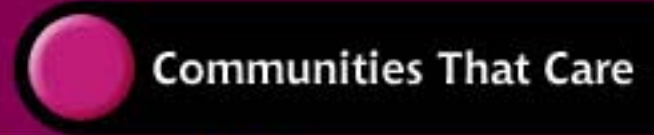
# The role of Key Leaders in initiating the *Communities That Care* system



- Commit to the process
- Engage other Key Leaders
- Establish the Community Board
- Oversee implementation of the *Communities That Care* system
- Educate the community about the *Communities That Care* system



# The role of Key Leaders in initiating the *Communities That Care* system



- Hold the Community Board accountable
- Provide access to community resources and information
- Support implementation of the Community Action Plan



# The Community Board



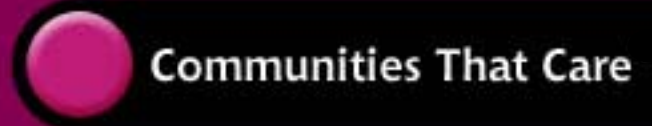
Communities That Care

- Represents the community's diversity
- Includes representation from all stakeholder groups
- Requires a three- to five-year commitment
- Requires a broad range of skills





## Phase Two: Organizing, Introducing, Involving



**Module 1**

**Setting the Stage**

**Module 2**

**Overview: The Research Foundation and Process**

**Module 3**

**Milestone: Address Readiness Issues**



**Module 4**

**Milestone: Engage Key Leaders**

**Module 5**

**Milestone: Educate and Involve the Community**

**Module 6**

**Milestone: Create an Effective Community Board**

**Module 7**

**Next Steps**